

REMARKS

Claims 33-63 are pending. Claims 1-32 have been cancelled. Claims 33-63 are newly presented. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Objections to the Drawings

Figures 2a, 3b, 4b, and 6 were objected to for containing improper cross hatching. Applicant submits herewith formal drawings for Figures 1-7 which formalize Figures 6 and 7 and corrects the cross hatching in Figures 2a, 3b, 4b, and 6. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

Objections to the Specification and the Claims

The specification and the claims were objected to for containing various informalities. Applicant respectfully submits that these objections are moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-32 and that the informalities have been corrected in new claims 33-63.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and claims 1-18, 24, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-32. Applicant further submits that new claims 33-63 fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 103

Claims 1-14, 19-23, 25, 26, and 28-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Sheldon et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,475,243) and claims 15-18, 24, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sheldon et al. Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-32. Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that Sheldon fails to disclose teach or suggest the features recited in new claims 33-63.

Conclusion

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s): Formal Drawings, five (5) sheets (Figs. 1-7)